



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/615,163	07/13/2000	John Robbart II	11927 P01	4750
7590		02/26/2004	EXAMINER	
ERIC A GIFFORD		LUDWIG, MATTHEW J		
11770 EAST CALLE DEL VALLE		ART UNIT		
TUCSON, AZ 85749		PAPER NUMBER		
		2178		
		DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/615,163

Applicant(s)

ROBBART ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew J. Ludwig

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 13, 15-18, 21-29, 32 and 33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12, 14, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Application filed 7/13/00.
2. Claims 1-33 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 29, 32, and 33 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 15-18, 21-28, 29, 32, and 33, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker, USPN 6,279,017 filed (2/2/98).**

In reference to independent claim 1, Walker teaches:

- Extracting attributes such as parts of speech from an input sentence (compare to *"providing text input"*). See column 2, lines 60-67.
- Words are looked up in dictionaries, glossaries, and tables to determine word attributes (compare to *"providing a library of function words and punctuation definitions"*). See column 11, lines 60-64. Furthermore, the reference teaches primary folding point locations can be stored as an attribute in a node in a linked list of nodes forming the enriched sentence. See column 13, lines 50-54.
- The text is parsed to identify paragraphs, sentences, words, and punctuation (compare to *"examining a first plurality of words of said text input"*). See column 11, lines 27-32.
- Folding points are determined using primary folding rules, which determine primary folding point locations based on punctuation marks (compare to *"determining using said*

function words and punctuation definitions, whether said first plurality of words includes a phrase"). See column 13, lines 40-67. The reference further discloses secondary folding points before the prepositions "in" and "of". Secondary folding points divide Super-phrases into "Mini-phrases". See column 14, lines 20-30. The defined term phrase (as currently claimed) and the phrase techniques taught by Walk provide a reasonable suggestion of the utilization of function words and punctuation definitions for determining said phrase within text.

- Produce a text presentation product in time and in space that is more meaningful and enhances the reader's ability to comprehend the literal meaning of the text to a greater degree than existing formats on computers (compare to "*formatting said text input according to said determined phrases whereby the text input is formatted to enhance readability*"). See column 4, lines 28-32.

The reference does not explicitly disclose marking the phrase; however, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Walker before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the folding point (*Phrase*) storing methods of Walker and marked the phrase found within the text, because a database provides the essential nodes in the formation of enriched sentences and would have given the user the added benefit of improved reading comprehension when one sentence appears at a time and when the transition from one paragraph to another is signaled within a database and allows for a pause for the appearance of these elements of text.

In reference to dependent claim 2, Walker teaches:

Extracting text specific attributes from machine-readable text and creating a visual product for enhancing the reading experience. See column 2, lines 58-65. The reference does not

Art Unit: 2178

explicitly disclose what type of device is providing the machine readable text; however, there are many such devices well known in the art that are capable of supplying a processor with machine readable text. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have received machine readable text from a speech recognition device, computer keyboard, touch pad, on-screen touch pad, handwriting recognition device, prosthetic device, network input, or a text-generating computer application. For the following reasons, the devices, which were well known in the art for providing machine-readable text based on the user's preferred input method would have provided proficient machine-readable text based input devices and given the user a variety of input means within the claimed invention.

In reference to dependent claim 12, 13, Walker teaches:

Sentences are segmented according to reader-approved rules. Each preposition folds a phrase in a predictable way, resulting in two text segments, each lying on a new line. See column 3, lines 58-61. The reference further discloses displaying text on opposed pages such that reading of text across the opposed pages can occur without waiting for pagination. See column 4, lines 43-50. The reference utilizes rules within the text based display method and provides a reasonable interpretation of templates within a defined library specified by the user and their preferences. The rule-based system as taught by Walker describes a trial and error process and suggests a similar idea as that of a neural network.

In reference to dependent claim 15, Walker teaches:

The visual attributes can include text segmentation, horizontal displacement of one line relative to another, text and background color, text brightness, and animation. See column 3, lines 27-31.

In reference to dependent claim 16-18, Walker teaches:

The visual attributes can include text segmentation, horizontal displacement of one line relative to another, text and background color, text brightness, and animation. See column 3, lines 27-31.

In reference to dependent claim 21-28, Walker teaches:

The enhanced text being viewed by readers of an electronic book. See column 16, lines 20-35. The reference further discloses enhanced text stored in standard word processing format such as Microsoft Word or Corel Word Perfect. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the text enhancing techniques of Walker and provided the enhanced text for presentation to user devices such as a printer, speech synthesizer, video broadcast as closed-caption subtitles, a web page, magazine, or direct marketing literature, because they all utilize the Microsoft word processing format. The utilization of the standard word processing format taught by Walker would have provided the user enhanced presentation devices for enhanced text.

In reference to claim 29, the claim reflects the system comprising instructions used for performing the methods as claimed in claims 1, respectfully, and in further view of the following, is rejected along the same rationale.

In reference to claims 32 and 33, the claims reflect similar limitations used for performing the methods as claimed in claim 1, respectively, and in further view of the following, is rejected along the same rationale.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 11, 14, 19, 20, 30, and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kenninga	USPN 6,510,441	filed (12/11/98)
Karow et al.	USPN 5,937,420	filed (07/23/96)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew J. Ludwig whose telephone number is 703-305-8043. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

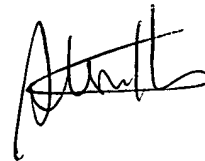
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 703-308-5186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

Art Unit: 2178

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ML
February 4, 2004



**STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**